

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 02748 181351Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00
ICAE-00 INRE-00 HA-05 /055 W
-----071279 181355Z /50

O R 181310Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4265
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 2748

BONN ALSO FOR USDEL CSCE SCIENTIFIC FORUM

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, SHUM, UR, SW
SUBJECT: BILATERAL APPROACH TO SWEDEN ON SOVIET TRIALS

REF: A) STATE 179532, B) STOCKHOLM 2733

1. POLOFF DISCUSSED RECENT SOVIET TRIALS WITH MFA'S SVEN HIRDMAN (DIVISION CHIEF FOR SOVIET UNION, EE AND ASIAN COMMUNIST STATES) BASED ON POINTS OUTLINED REF A, PARA 4. HIRDMAN CITED JULY 12 STATEMENT ISSUED BY ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER OLA ULLSTEN ON BEHALF OF GOS (REF B). MFA REGARDS ULLSTEN'S STATEMENT AS UNUSUALLY STRONG FOR HIGH-LEVEL SWEDISH GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL AND LIKELY TO BE THE LAST WORD ON THE SUBJECT FOR TIME BEING.

2. SWEDES PERCEIVE CSCE STATES AS HOPELESSLY DIVIDED INTO TWO CAMPS ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES. ANY JOINT ACTION AS MIGHT BE CONTEMPLATED REF A, PARA 4.F, ON PART OF
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WESTERN CAMP COULD ONLY FURTHER STIFFEN HARD-LINE POSITIONS IN THE EAST IN SWEDISH VIEW.

3. COMMENT: VARIOUS MFA FRIENDS HAVE CITED TO US IN RECENT WEEKS THEIR COMMON PERCEPTION THAT THE NOOSE HAS BEEN TIGHTENING AROUND DISSIDENT NECKS ALL OVER EASTERN EUROPE IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE.

SWEDES ARE FRUSTRATED BY THIS PHENOMENON AND THEIR
OFFICIAL REACTION TO RECENT SOVIET TRIALS WAS SWIFT AND
TOUGHLY WORDED. MFA OFFICIALS WOULD LIKE TO HOLD FIRE
FOR AWHILE, BUT PRESS AND SHCHARANSKY COMMITTEE ARE APT
TO KEEP ISSUE ALIVE AND IN PUBLIC EYE. SOVIET IMAGE IN
STOCKHOLM IS AT LOW EBB, AND ANY GOOD WILL THAT RECENT
VISIT TO MOSCOW OF KING AND QUEEN MIGHT HAVE GENERATED
TOWARD SOVIETS HAS, IN THE AFTERMATH OF TRIALS, BEEN QUICKLY
DISSIPATED.
KENNEDY-MINOTT

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NNN

Message Attributes

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